

Appln No. 09/694,079

Amdt date January 14, 2004

Reply to Office action of November 20, 2003

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-25. Cancelled.

26. (Currently Amended) The system of claim [25] 28 wherein said timing information comprises one of timestamp information, timecode information, frame numbering information and global time of day.

27. (Currently Amended) The system of claim [25] 28 wherein said receiver synchronizes said annotation data with said video signal in response to said timing information.

28. (Currently Amended) [~~The system of claim 24~~] A hyperlinked reception system comprising:

a receiver in communication with a broadcast channel; and
a display device in communication with said receiver,
wherein said receiver decodes a digital broadcast signal to
recover a video signal and annotation data;

wherein, in response to a viewer request, said display
device displays said annotation data associated with said video
signal on a frame by frame basis; and

wherein said annotation data comprises a plurality of annotations having equal timing information, and said viewer

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request comprises an indication as to which annotation of said plurality of annotations is to be displayed.

29-32. Cancelled.

33. (Currently Amended) The ~~[method]~~ system of claim ~~[31]~~ 28, wherein said annotation data comprises information regarding goods and services for sale.

34. (Currently Amended) The ~~[method]~~ system of claim ~~[31]~~ 28, wherein said annotation data comprises non-commercial information.

35. (Currently Amended) The ~~[method]~~ system of claim ~~[31]~~ 28 wherein said annotation data comprises mask data and at least one of textual data and graphics data.

36. (Currently Amended) The ~~[method]~~ system of claim 35 wherein said mask data includes location information of an object in an annotated video frame.

37. (Currently Amended) The ~~[method]~~ system of claim 36 wherein said location information includes a graphics location reference that represents a fixed relation to a set of pixels associated with said object.

38. (Currently Amended) The ~~[method]~~ system of claim 37 wherein said graphics location reference includes an upper left most pixel in said associated pixel set.

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39. (Currently Amended) The [~~method~~] system of claim [38] 37 wherein said graphics location reference includes a centroid pixel of said associated pixel set.

40. (Currently Amended) The [~~method~~] system of claim 35 wherein said mask data comprises location and shape information of an object in an annotated video frame.

41. (Currently Amended) The [~~method~~] system of claim 40 wherein said shape information is represented by a graphical overlay of said object.

42. (Currently Amended) The [~~method~~] system of claim 40 wherein said shape information is represented by an outline of said object.

43. (Currently Amended) The [~~method~~] system of claim 40 wherein said shape information is represented by a mathematical representation of a set of pixels associated with said object.

44-48. Cancelled

49. (Currently Amended) The [~~method~~] system of claim [47] 28, further comprising
means for transmitting information related to said viewer request to a remote location over a backchannel communications channel.

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50. (Currently Amended) The ~~[method]~~ system of claim [47] 28, further comprising:

~~[in response to a viewer prompt,]~~ means for accepting from a viewer information regarding a commercial transaction, and completing said transaction.

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cancel.*

51. (Currently Amended) The ~~[method]~~ system of claim 50, wherein the information regarding a commercial transaction accepted from a viewer comprises at least one of a viewer's identifier, a viewers address, an identifier of a viewer's financial account, a viewer's password, a viewer's personal identification number, a quantity, a model, a size, a color, a descriptor of a good or service to be vended, and a price.
